

To: dmoss@spokanecounty.org[dmoss@spokanecounty.org];
ingrid.wertz@seattle.gov[ingrid.wertz@seattle.gov]; JBowman@lakehaven.org[JBowman@lakehaven.org];
martin.baker@seattle.gov[martin.baker@seattle.gov];
phil.williams@ci.bremerton.wa.us[phil.williams@ci.bremerton.wa.us]; Arnold Kay[Akay@ci.lynnwood.wa.us];
Arnold, Dale [darnold@spokanecity.org]; Betsy Cooper[betsy.cooper@kingcounty.gov]; (b)
[REDACTED]; Burke, Martha[martha.burke@seattle.gov]; Chris McCalib[cmccalib@lakehaven.org];
Coster, Michael[mcoster@SpokaneCity.org]; Dan Wrye[dwrye@co.pierce.wa.us]; Daniel
Thompson[dthompso@cityoftacoma.org]; Dave Monthie[dave.monthie@kingcounty.gov]; Dick
Lilly[Dick.Lilly@Seattle.Gov]; doug.navetski@kingcounty.gov[doug.navetski@kingcounty.gov]; Ehrlich,
Victor[vehrlich@ci.vancouver.wa.us]; Fowler, Karla[karla.fowler@lotionline.org]; Franz, William
[wfranz@ci.lynnwood.wa.us]; Goldberg Jennie[jennie.goldberg@seattle.gov]; Heather
Kibbey[hkibbey@ci.everett.wa.us]; Jim Fleming[jfleming@lakehaven.org]; Jim Miller[JMiller@ci.everett.wa.us];
John McClellan[jmcclellan@ci.everett.wa.us]; Ken Butti[KenButti@lotionline.org]; Larry
Ekstrom[LEKSTRO@co.pierce.wa.us]; (b) (6) [REDACTED]; Michael
Mecham[mmecham@ci.bremerton.wa.us]; Neil Thibert[Neil.Thibert@Seattle.Gov]; O'Hanlon,
Alisa[Alisa.OHanlon@ci.tacoma.wa.us]; Patric Coxon[Patric.Coxon@ci.bremerton.wa.us]; Perry, Donald
[DPerry@lakehaven.org]; Pettifor, Giles[Giles.Pettifor@kingcounty.gov]; Rawls,
Bruce[BRawls@spokanecounty.org]; Robert Chandler[robert.chandler@seattle.gov]; Robin
Ordenez[rordone@co.pierce.wa.us]; Ryan Dooley[ryan.dooley@co.pierce.wa.us]; Ryan,
Andy[Andy.Ryan@Seattle.Gov]; Sharman.Herrin@kingcounty.gov[Sharman.Herrin@kingcounty.gov]; Sheila
Strehle[Sheila.Strehle@Seattle.Gov]; Stacy, Brian[bstacy@co.pierce.wa.us]; Steve
Kamieniecki[SKAMIEN@co.pierce.wa.us]; Susan Saffery[Susan.Saffery@Seattle.Gov]; Theresa
Wagner[Theresa.Wagner@seattle.gov]; Thetford, Tom[TThetford@ci.everett.wa.us];
Tim[tramsau@co.pierce.wa.us]; White, Dave[Dave.White@kingcounty.gov]
From: Ed Thorpe
Sent: Thur 5/7/2009 11:02:43 AM
Subject: FW: News Release (HQ): EPA Budget Aims to Create Jobs, Protect Human Health and the
Environment

From: U.S. EPA [mailto:usaepa@govdelivery.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2009 10:41 AM
To: ed.thorpe@comcast.net
Subject: News Release (HQ): EPA Budget Aims to Create Jobs, Protect Human Health and the Environment

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

EPA Budget Aims to Create Jobs, Protect Human Health and the Environment

Contact: Enesta Jones, 202-564-4355 / 7873 / jones.enesta@epa.gov

(Washington D.C. – May 7, 2009) Administrator Lisa P. Jackson released EPA's fiscal year 2010 budget blueprint, which takes significant strides to ensure that our air, land, and water are safe and clean. Expanding on the investments of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, this \$10.5 billion budget allows EPA to provide real solutions to our economic crisis. It significantly improves accountability and transparency, ensuring fiscal responsibility at a time when every dollar counts.

"EPA's new budget reflects the President's commitment to growing a clean energy economy while protecting human health and the environment," said Administrator Jackson. "These investments demonstrate that it is possible to work towards both a green economy and a green environment by positioning EPA to lead the way in green jobs, in innovation and technology, and in action on global climate change."

Budget Highlights:

Maintaining and Improving Clean Water Infrastructure: To maintain and improve outdated water infrastructure and keep our wastewater and drinking water clean and safe, EPA has budgeted \$3.9 billion. The funding will support efforts around the country to build and renovate an estimated 1,000 clean water and 700 drinking water infrastructure projects, support green infrastructure and create thousands of technical and construction jobs. Funding will also be available to help communities repair and upgrade the aging network of drinking water and wastewater pipes that are overwhelmed and breaking down.

The budget includes a \$475 million multi-agency Great Lakes Initiative to protect and clean up the largest fresh water lakes in the world through restoration efforts, invasive species control, non-point source pollution mitigation and critical habitats protection. The budget also includes funding for crucial efforts to protect, maintain, and restore the Chesapeake Bay and Anacostia River, Puget Sound, San Francisco Bay, Lake Champlain and other large waterbodies.

Addressing Climate Change: To address the growing threat of climate change, EPA will make key investments in the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory. That involves new analytical tools, upgraded testing capabilities, and coordination with other agencies on research and green initiatives.

EPA's \$17 million GHG registry investment will include data reporting and implementation efforts, data management systems, guidance and materials for the regulated community and source measurement technologies. The budget also includes an additional \$2 million for EPA to continue to reduce its own GHG emissions by 3 percent each year.

Managing Resources Efficiently: The budget reflects important concerns of accountability. The President, the Congress, and most importantly, the people, demand that the federal government manage its resources responsibly. EPA will be increasing funding for the Inspector General's office to monitor public dollars entrusted to the agency.

Restoring Communities: The EPA budget is investing in hazardous waste cleanups like Superfund and Brownfields programs that employ thousands of people across the country and restore properties for economic use.

\$1.3 billion will go to increase the number of hazardous waste sites ready for anticipated use and fund ongoing site cleanups. The budget proposes to restore the Superfund tax known as the "polluter pays" policy, which expired in 1995, to fund future clean-up efforts. Beginning in 2011, the Superfund tax is estimated to generate \$1 billion of revenue a year, rising to \$2 billion a year by 2019.

The budget proposes \$175 million for the Brownfields program, which will provide additional assessment, clean-up, and job-training grants. The budget also contains \$128 million for the Leaking Underground Storage Tank and Underground Storage Tank programs and \$18 million for the Oil Spill Response program.

Managing Chemical Risks: A total of \$55 million will go to an enhanced toxics program to screen, assess and reduce chemical risks. Funding will be invested in monitoring air toxics at schools and to provide technical assistance and coordination with states and local communities. Other major investments include funding for continued efforts to reduce lead exposure and grants to states, tribes, and other partners to promote worker safety, protection of water sources and endangered species from pesticide exposure.

Reinforcing Scientific Integrity: This budget supports rigorous, peer-reviewed scientific analyses with \$842 million for science and technology. The budget also proposes additional funding for water sustainability to assess, develop and compile scientifically rigorous tools and models that will help advance the deployment of green water infrastructure.

Protecting Communities: Approximately \$600 million will go to the EPA's Enforcement and Compliance Assurance program. It includes an increase of nearly 30 additional enforcement staff and will enhance efforts to integrate environmental justice considerations in EPA programs and policies. It will also aid in the work to fulfill environmental requirements with respect to other federal agencies' recovery act projects.

Strengthening Partnerships: Administrator Jackson emphasized that states, localities and tribes are the front line in many environmental programs, as they implement major portions of almost all EPA programs. The budget includes \$1.1 billion for categorical grants to states and tribes.

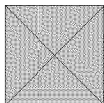
More information on the FY 2010 budget: <http://www.epa.gov/budget/>

More information on EPA's recovery act funding: <http://www.epa.gov/recovery>

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